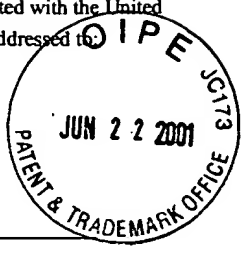


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PATENT  
16869B-016600US  
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On June 19, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Margaret K. Stepten

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

In re application of:

Naoko Iwami, et al.

Application No.: 09/742,157

Filed: December 19, 2000

For: GUARANTEED DATA ACCESS  
SPEED OF A STORAGE SYSTEM

REQUEST FOR STATUS

Initial Patent Examination Division  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Counsel for Applicants notes that the Official Filing Receipt and Notice to File Missing Parts for Nonprovisional Application has not been received to date in the above-identified application. The only documentation received from the U.S. Patent Office thus far is the return receipt postcard from the original filing of the application (copy attached). It is respectfully requested that the Patent Office issue the filing receipt and Notice as soon as possible so that formalities may be completed in application.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Colwell

Robert C. Colwell  
Reg. No. 27,431

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PA 3151761 v1



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**JAN 10 2001**

PATENT APPLICATION  
FILING ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
Express Mail No.: EL630577561US

Mailing Date: 12/19/00

File No.: 16869C-016600US

Attorney: PAD:cmm

Inventor(s): Naoko Iwami et al.

Title: Guaranteed Data Access Speed of a Storage System

Declaration: Assignment (unsigned)

Combined Declaration & Power of Attorney (unsigned)

Small Entity Declaration (unsigned)

No. Pages of Description: 18

No. Pages of

No. Pages of Claims: 3

No. Pages of Abstract: 1

No. Sheets of Drawings: 13

Microfiche Appendix:

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Application Transmittal (3);

Information Disclosure Statement

PTO 1449 form + refs

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